

Washington State Patrol Media Release

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Seatbelt Violation Leads to HOV Violator with Homemade Dummy as a Passenger

An observant trooper patrolling interstate 405 in King County during the afternoon rush hour yesterday was surprised to find out that the seatbelt violator was actually a dummy.

The trooper observed a 1987 Honda Civic driving northbound in the HOV lane. The passenger was not wearing a seatbelt and appeared to be sitting very still, too still for a live person. The trooper initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle and upon arriving at the passenger's window he confirmed that the passenger was in fact a realistic looking homemade dummy.

The trooper asked the driver how long he had been driving with a dummy in his passenger seat. The driver told the trooper that it had only been a few days. He also told the trooper that he lives on Camano Island and couldn't tolerate sitting in traffic any longer.

The driver was issued a \$124 infraction for the carpool violation.



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